

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03875 041309Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/066 W  
-----094267 050717Z /13  
R 041303Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8285

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 03875

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, CA  
SUBJECT: JUSTICE MINISTER BASFORD RESIGNS AS EXPECTED FOR  
PERSONAL REASONS

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE ANNOUNCED AUGUST 2 THAT JUSTICE  
MINISTER RONALD BASFORD HAD RESIGNED FROM CABINET, AND  
WOULD BE REPLACED TEMPORARILY BY SOLICITOR-GENERAL JEAN-  
JACQUES BLAIS. (BASFORD WILL, HOWEVER, RETAIN HIS PARLIA-  
MENTARY SEAT FOR THE PRESENT.) BASFORD'S DEPARTURE FROM  
CABINET COMES AS NO SURPRISE SINCE HE HAD INDICATED LAST  
JANUARY (OTTAWA 326) HE WOULD NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION IN  
FEDERAL ELECTIONS THEN EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE IN JUNE OR  
JULY. RESIGNATION FOLLOWS PRIME MINISTER'S AUGUST 1  
STATEMENT THAT "THERE WILL NOT BE AN ELECTION AT THIS  
TIME" (OTTAWA 3857), WHICH FURTHER PUTS OFF LONG-EXPECTED  
ELECTION. BASFORD HAS VOICED DESIRE TO SPEND MORE TIME  
WITH HIS FAMILY AFTER SERVING IN CABINET FOR TEN YEARS,  
AND REPORTEDLY DISPOSED OF HIS OTTAWA HOME LAST JUNE IN  
PREPARATION FOR DEPARTURE. THERE HAS BEEN NO SUGGESTION  
THAT HE WAS IN POLITICAL DIFFICULTY IN HIS VANCOUVER RID-  
ING OR WITHIN TRUDEAU GOVERNMENT. PRIME MINISTER AND  
BASFORD EXCHANGED WARM TRIBUTES ON HIS RESIGNATION.  
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DUEMLING

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978OTTAWA03875  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780321-0438  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** OTTAWA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780897/aaaaddwr.tel  
**Line Count:** 56  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** a9f0356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1835644  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JUSTICE MINISTER BASFORD RESIGNS AS EXPECTED FOR PERSONAL REASONS PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE ANNOUNCED  
AUGUST 2 THAT JU  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, CA, (BASFORD, RONALD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a9f0356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014